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## Poland

## Stone Fruit

## Annual

## 2008

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**Report Highlights:**

Poland's production of stone fruits (plums, cherries, peaches, and apricots) in 2007 was 50 percent lower than in 2006. Such a large drop in production resulted from the frost in the beginning of May 2007, which damaged the majority of orchards in Poland.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
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Poland's production of stone fruits (plums, cherries, peaches, and apricots) in 2007 was 50 percent lower than in 2006. Such a large drop in production resulted from the frost in the beginning of May 2007, which damaged the majority of orchards in Poland. The Spanish stone fruit harvest in 2007 was similarly damaged by bad weather.

In Poland – orchards represent 411,000 hectares or 3 percent of all agricultural land in the country. The planted area of plums has been increasing to 22,100 in 2007 from 20,800 in 2005, but is still lower than in 2004 when it was 25,400 hectares. Plum production was 91,400 metric tons in 2005, 93,600 tons in 2006, and 53,400 tons in 2007.

Imports increased from 2,000 ton in 2006 to 7,000 tons in 2007, mainly due to a very small harvest in 2007, which was only enough to meet local demand. Increased imports covered the export obligations, so the exported quantities declined only from 11,000 tons in 2006 to 10,000 tons in 2007.

Planted area of cherries was 47,200 hectares in 2007, which is 2 percent higher than in 2006. However, production dropped to 127,200 tons in 2007 from 233,000 tons in 2006 but still remained greater than Spain's 72,600 tons produced in 2007.

Imports increased to 2,000 tons in 2007, while exports decreased from 21,000 tons in 2006 to only 7,000 tons in 2007.

Peaches were grown on 3,400 hectares in 2007, which is a 6 percent increase from 2006. Production is still in decline; 14,300 tons of peaches were produced in 2004, 9,600 tons in 2005, 5,500 tons in 2006, and 3,600 tons in 2007. Polish peach production is dwarfed by Spanish peach production of 1.16 million tons in 2007. Most of that Poland imports are from Spain. Both, imports and exports of peaches have been increasing in recent years. Imports of peaches represented 97,000 tons in 2007 (a 31 percent increase from 2006). Exports increased from 12,000 tons in 2006 to 26,000 tons in 2007.\*

Apricots seem to be of lesser importance among Polish stone fruits. Both area planted and tons produced have been declining for several years. There were 1,500 hectares under apricot trees in 2006 and 2007. The production dropped from 4,900 tons in 2004, to 2,400 tons in 2006 and 1,100 tons in 2007. Once again, this is much less than the 86,700 tons of apricots that Spain produced in 2007 even after the losses due to bad weather. Imports and exports remained the same from 2006 to 2007 (4,000 tons of imports and 1,000 ton of exports).

In Estonia orchard area represents 2,700 hectares or 1 percent of all agricultural land in the country. (2006). There were no imports or exports of apricots and cherries. No peaches or plums were exported. Estonia imported 3,000 tons of peaches each year in 2005, 2006, and 2007. Imports of plums remained unchanged since 2005 at 1,000 tons, but the percentage of plum imports that come from Spain into Estonia has been steadily increasing.

Latvia's 29,009 hectares of orchards represented 1.2 percent of the 1,925,000 hectares of agricultural land in 2005. Planted area of plums has increased every year from 800 hectares in 2003 to 900 hectares in 2005. Land devoted to cherries decreased from 1,000 hectares in 2003 to 900 hectares in 2005. Production has also grown, with plums increasing from 957 tons in 2003 up to 2,455 tons in 2005, cherries from 883 tons in 2003 to 1,863 tons in 2005. There were minimal exports or imports of apricots. Imports of cherries remained stable at 1,000 tons. Latvia exported virtually no cherries in 2007 after exporting only 1,000 tons in 2006. Imports of peaches remained at 5,000 tons annually since 2005 and imports

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\* Note: In reference to GAIN report SP8008, the figures for Spain's exports of peaches and nectarines to Poland and to Italy are transposed. The correct figures should show that Spain exported 47,316 metric tons of peaches and nectarines to Poland and 43,439 metric tons to Italy.

increased from several hundred to 1,000 tons in 2007. Also imports of plums are on the same level of 1,000 tons since 2005. Less than 1,000 tons of plums were exported.

Lithuania had 3,482,946 hectares of agricultural land, of which 59,578 hectares, or 2 percent, were orchards in 2006. In the same year fruit production was 36 kg per person and consumption was 79 kg per person (2006)

Import and export of apricots each amounted to 1,000 tons. Imports of cherries went down from 6,000 tons in 2006 to 3,000 tons in 2007, while exports decreased from 8,000 tons in 2006 to 2,000 tons in 2007. Imports of peaches increased from 7,000 tons in 2005, to 9,000 tons in 2006, and to 11,000 tons in 2007. Exports of peaches increased too, from 1,000 tons in 2005, 4,000 tons in 2006 to 7,000 tons in 2007. Imports of plums dropped from 6,000 tons in 2006 to 4,000 tons in 2007, while exports decreased from 7,000 tons in 2006 to 4,000 tons in 2007.

Most imports in the above mentioned countries came from Spain, Greece, France, and Italy. Poland was among the suppliers to Lithuania and Latvia.

Latvian, Lithuanian and Polish stone fruit exports were delivered to Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Czech Republic and Estonia.

Forecast: The winter in 2007/2008 was rather mild and there was no damage from the frost at the end of April and beginning of May. There were hailstorms recorded in some regions of Poland, but the damage was rather insignificant. Meteorologists forecast that if there is no inclement weather such as heavy rains or hailstorms in June, there may be an overproduction of fruits this year or at least the similar level of production to 2006, both in Poland as well as in Lithuania and Latvia.

PLEASE NOTE: This report should be read in conjunction with EU Stone Fruit report available at:

<http://intranetapps/GainFiles/200805/146294739.pdf>